Artificial recharge of ground water

2253. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for artificial recharge of ground water through Dugwells in overexploited, critical and semi-critical assessment units of States is in operation;

(b) if not, the Dugwells operated, amounts spent, irrigation potential created and total area of land newly covered thereby; and

(c) the total area of cultivable land in the country, and out of that how much has access to irrigation by surface water and ground water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) A scheme on "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwells" has been approved for implementation in 7 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise, in view of answer to (a) above.

(c) As per the information of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, net sown area in the country during the year 2006-07 was 140.298 Million hectare (M.Ha.) and the area under irrigation was 60.857 M.Ha., which comprised of 15.35 M.Ha. from canal, 2.044 M.Ha. from tanks, 7.554 M.Ha. from other sources, 24.056 M.Ha. from tubewells, 11.856 M.Ha. from other wells.

Standard of football team

†2254. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ranking of Indian football team is 140th;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the facilities provided by Government to improve the standard of Indian football team during last three years;

(d) whether the coach of Indian football team has suggested to discontinue tournaments like Durend and Santosh Trophy keeping in view World Cup and Olympics; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and special steps being taken by Government to improve the standard of football?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The current FIFA ranking of Indian football team is 147th, which is decided on the basis of performance of various teams at international level.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.